price was increased to Rs. 1282 per kg. due to impact of change in Exchange Rate of Rupee against major foreign currencies, with effect from 30th August, 1991. On 26th Feb., 1992, the price was again revised to Rs. 1346 per kg. on the basis of representation of its sole manufacturer M/s. Pfizer as per the escalation formula inbuilt in the BICP report. No instance has come to the notice of the Government that this bulk drug is available at Rs. 900 per kg.

Over-invoicing of Carbamezapine Drug

1606. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN :
SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 728 given in Rajya Sabha on the 16th July, 1992 and state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the current leader/ceiling price of Carbamezapine Tablets is based on landed cost of import of Carbamezapine of Rs. 4500 per kg.

(b) whether it is a fact that the current landed cost of import is only Rs. 3200/- kg. and when was the ceiling price fixed on the landed cost of import of Rs. 4500 per kg;

(c) whether it is a fact that import of Carbamezapine required for Syrup is being over-invoiced and what are the reasons for giving more than two times C.I.F. for this drug on quality considerations;

(d) whether it is a fact that the source which is supplying Carbamezapine syrup variety, is also supplying tablet variety of carbamezapine at Rs. 2800 per Kg.; and

(e) what are the names of other drugs the import of which is being over-invoiced ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) and (b) The current ceiling prices of Carbamezapine Tablets fixed on 9-7-1992 are based on landed cost of Rs. 4,364.21 per Kg. arrived at from DGHS weighted average c.i.f. price data for 1990-91, with due adjustments for exchange rates and applicable duties. DGHS weighted average c.i.f. price data for 1991-92 has become just available and the landed cost works out to Rs. 3,007.87 per Kg. and the prices of formulations are under suo-moto revision.

(c) and (d). The supply of Carbamezapine from one source is at higher c.i.f. price. This higher price was adopted as a special case on the quality and its suitability considerations for the manufacture of syrup only, keeping in view the fact that this formulation is meant for paediatric use and manufactured by only one company. This higher price though claimed for tablets also, was however, not admitted.

(e) to the extent information is available there is no specific evidence of over-invoicing in any case.

Increase in the Prices of Price-Decontrol Medicines

1607. SHRIMATI SATYA BAHIN :
SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of price decontrol medicines have gone up by more than 100 per cent to 200 per cent after the announcement of D.P.C.O. 1987;

(b) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry is monitoring the prices of price-decontrol medicines;

(c) if so, what was the price of Intravel Sodium 500mg vial and 1 gm. vial, Fluothane 250ml, Glycodine 79ml, D.B.I. strip of 10 tabs, Blocin 15mg. per amp Calmpose strip of 10 Tablets, Benedryl Syrup, Deonil Tabs, Dilosyn Expectorant, Berin Injection, Clothalton Tablets before DPCO 1987 and what is the present price of each;

(d) what is the percentage increase in each case and what is the M.A.P.E. taken in each products;

(e) what is the composition of each; and

(f) what is the justification of increase in each case ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) On the basis of a sample analysis it has been found that in only 12-13 cases of non-scheduled formulations, the prices have recorded an increase of more than 10% over their prices prevailing at the time of announcement of DPCO, 1987.

(b) Yes, Sir. to the extent possible.

(c) to (e) To the extent available, the information is given in the Annexure [See Appendix CLXV, Annexure No. 30]

(f) The matter would be examined.

Irregularities committed by M/s. Carews

1608. SHRIMATI KAILASH PATI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Carews, an MRTP company, was liable to pay in respect of Combiflame and other products before November, 1986;

(b) what is the position of recovery against this company and what steps have taken to identify all the irregularities of this company;

(c) whether it is a fact that all these irregularities were later on not pursued; and

(d) what steps have been taken to probe the entire issue ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) to (d) M/s. Carews were ordered to deposit an amount of Rs. 710.27 lakhs on account of overcharging in respect of Combiflame for the period between 5-11-1986 to 31-12-1988. The company has filed a Writ Petition against the order in the Calcutta High Court. In respect of other products which were being manufactured by this Company during the disputed period, the issue whether there had been any irregularity, is under consideration.

Increase in drug prices without technical study

1609. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that his Ministry allowed price increases of certain drugs without cost-cum-tachnical study under DPCO, 1987;

(b) if so, names of those drugs and what was the increase allowed and the present price of each;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry have not verified the stocks in hand, expected arrival and CIF import price of raw materials, and latest conversion norms before allowing price increases;

(d) if so, the names of those drugs and reasons therefor;

(e) whether it is a fact that these producers made huge unitended profits; and

(f) if so, what steps have been taken to assess and make recovery ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) : (a) to (d) To the extent information is available, there are four bulk drugs in respect of which cost-cum-technical study reports of BICP are not available under DPCO 1987 and in whose cases price increases have been notified from time to time to accommodate increase in input costs and to avoid shortages. Details of names of these drugs and prices are given in the Statement at Statement (See below). The prices of these drugs have been worked out on the basis of analysis of consumption norms of raw materials and utilities and other cost data submitted by the manufacturers. No on-the-spot verification has been done. This kind of exercise is done by the BICP as part of their cost-cum-technical study.

(e) There is no material to indicate that manufacturers made any unintended profits.

(f) Does not arise.